Museum at Harappan site of Dholavira

1517. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision is pending before Government for the establishment of a Museum at the Harappan site of Dholavira;

(b) if so, by when the decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons for such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Establishment of a small Museum cum Interpretation centre at Dholavira site is in progress and the museum is likely to be opened for public viewing shortly.

Appointment of a committee on the celebration of 150 years of 1857 Rebellion

1518. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee has been appointed as part of celebrations in commemoration of 150 years of the 1857 Rebellion;

(b) if so, the composition of the said committee;

(c) whether there are any historians included in that committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has decided to commorate the 150th Anniversary of first War of Independence 1857. A National Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister to chalk out the programmes. A National Implementation Committee has also been constituted under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development for Implementation of the programmes. The composition of these committees is at Statement I and II (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Prof. Romila Thapar and Shri Ram Chandra Guha were included in the National Committee while Prof. Satish Chandra, Former Chairman, ICHR and Ms. Nayanjot Lahiri, Professor Delhi University were included in the National Implementation Committee. Prof. Romila Thapar and Ms. Nayanjot Lahiri subsequently resigned.

Statement I

The Composition of the National Committee

MEMBER

1. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
   Former Prime Minister
2. Shri Inder Kumar Gujaral
   Former Prime Minister
3. Shri Chandra Shekhar
   Former Prime Minister
4. Shri H.D. Deve Gowda
   Former Prime Minister
5. Shri V.P. Singh
   Former Prime Minister
6. Shri L.K. Advani
   Leader of Opposition Lok Sabha
7. Smt. Sonia Gandhi
   Chairperson UPA
   President, Indian National Congress
8. Shri Arjun Singh
   Minister of Human Resource Development
9. Shri Pranab Mukherjee
   Minister of Defence (At Present Minister of External Affairs)
10. Shri Sharad Pawar
    Minister of Agriculture
    Consumer Affairs
    Food and Public Distribution

11. Shri Shivraj V. Patil
Minister of Home Affairs

12. Shri P. Chidambaram
Minister of Finance

13. Smt. Ambika Soni
Minister of Tourism and Culture

14 Shri S. Jaipal Reddy
Minister of Urban Development

15. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan
Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers and Steel

16. Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav
Minister of Railway

17 Shri K. Chandrashekher Rao
Minister of Labour and Employment

18. Smt. Meira Kumar
Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment

19. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar
Minister of Panchayati Raj and Youth Affairs and Sports

20. Shri Kapil Sibal
Minister of Science and Technology

21. Shri Shibu Soren (No longer in the position)
Minister of Coal

22. Km. Selija
MOS (Independent Charge)
Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment

23. Governor of Haryana

24. Governor of Gujarat

25. Governor of Jharkhand

26. Governor of Meghalaya

27. Governor of Kerala

28. Governor of West Bengal
29. Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh
30. Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir
31. Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh
32. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh
33. Chief Minister of Bihar
34. Chief Minister of Jharkhand
35. Chief Minister of Punjab
36. Chief Minister of Haryana
37. Chief Minister of Assam
38. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
39. Chief Minister of Rajasthan
40. Chief Minister of Orisa
41. Chief Minister of Maharashtra
42. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh
43. Chief Minister of National Capital Territory of Delhi
44. Shri Rajnath Singh
President, BJP
45. Shri M. Karunanidhi
President DMK
46. Shri A.B. Bardhan
General Secretary, CPI
47. Shri Prakash Karat
General Secretary, CPM
48. Shri Prakash Singh Badal
President, Shiromai Akali Dal
49. Km. Mayawati, MP
President, Bahujan Samaj Party
50. Km. Mamta Banerjee, MP
President Trinmool Congress

51. Shri Sharad Yadav
President, JD(U)

52. Ms. Mehbooba Mufti
President, PDP (J&K)

53. Shri Omar Abdullah, MP
President, National Conference (J&K)

54. Dr. Karan Singh, MP

55. Ms. Nirmala Deshpande, MP

56. Shri Rahul Gandhi, MP

57. Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, MP

58. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, MP

59. Shri Shyam Benegal, MP

60. Shri Syed Shahabuddin, Ex-MP

61. Shri Shashi Bhushan, Ex-MP

62. Shri Ram Chandra Guha

63. Prof. Romila Thapar (since resigned)

64. Shri Bal Apte
Leader RSS

65. Shri Javed Akhtar

66. Shri Alok Rai

67. Shri Prafulah Bidwai (noted Journalist)

68. Shri Saeed Naqvi (noted Journalist)

69. Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunshi
Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and
Minister of Information and Broadcasting

70. Shri A.R. Antulay
Minister of Minority Affairs

71. Shri T.V. Rajeshwar
Governor of Uttar Pradesh

Statement-II

The Composition of the National Implementation Committee

1. Shri Arjun Singh
   Minister of Human Resource Development-Chairman
2. Shri Shivraj V. Patil
   Minister of Home Affairs
3. Shri A.R. Antulay
   Minister of Minority Affairs
4. Shri P. Chidambaram
   Minister of Finance
5. Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunshi
   Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and
   Minister of Information and Broadcasting
6. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar
   Minister of Panchayati Raj and
   Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports
7. Smt. Ambika Soni
   Minister of Tourism and Culture
8. Smt. Renuka Choudhary
   Minister of State (Independence Charge) of the
   Ministry of Woman and Child Development
9. Shri Rajiv Sethi
10. Shri Shashi Bhushan, Ex-MP
11. Prof. Satish Chandra, Ex-Chairman UGC
12. Shri Javed Akhtar
13. Shri Ashutosh Gowarikar
14. Ms. Nandita Das
15. Ms. Nayanjot Lahiri (Since resigned)
16. Secretary Culture - Member Secretary

17. Smt. Malvika Singh

18. Shri H.S. Hanspal

Memory sign for site of battle of plassey

1519. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two hundred and fifty years later, the site of the Battle of Plassey waits for a sign of memory as there is nothing else but a plaque set up by the British Government to mark the event;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the tourists who come there look for basic facilities such as eateries, toilets, etc. but return disappointed; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to develop the site?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under schemes for Product/ Infrastructure Developmen of Circuits/Destinations and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects. Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respect are examined as per scheme guidelines and sanctioned on the basis of inter-se priority and funds released subject to availability under the respective head.

Destination Plassey was prioritized for the year 2006-07. However, the project proposal received from the State Government of West Bengal was not as per the guidelines hence, was not sanctioned.

However, an amount of Rs. 2639.45 lakh has been sanctioned in the year 2006-07 for tourism related projects for the State of West Bengal.

Care of world heritage sites by ASI

1520. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state: